

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • JULY/AUGUST 2003

Building a Strong and Vital OPC

by Shelley Neumeier

Since Alexis Gelber took over as president of the OPC in fall of 2002, news from abroad has dominated the headlines: the war in Iraq, the ongoing war on terror, and the halting peace process in the Middle East. As OPC journalists cover these and other stories, Gelber is working to make the club an important resource for its members, and a place where the key issues of the day are explored and debated. Gelber has had a long connection with international news: She began her career at *Newsweek* as a writer for the international edition in 1980. Then, after several stints on the domestic magazine, she went on to serve as managing editor of *Newsweek International*, before taking over as director of special projects in 2000. In an interview with the OPC Bulletin, Gelber talks about what she has planned for the club in the coming year.

What kind of role do you see the OPC playing in the journalistic community today?

The club has an extraordinarily impressive membership both in terms of the individuals who are part of the club and the organizations they work for. I

think that especially at a time like this, when international news is so much at the forefront of the national consciousness, that we have an important role to play.

I thought it was especially moving that at our awards dinner, so many of the award recipients had just come back from Iraq, Kuwait and the Middle East. It showed how engaged everyone was in covering the most important stories of our time.

What plans do you have for the coming year?

I'd like to see us have even more ambitious events, panel discussions, and book evenings, inviting important newsmakers to speak at the club. I think that there's a hunger for this information now. We hosted a great evening with the Asia Society, which is something I'd like to do more of—to collaborate with our fellow organizations devoted to international affairs. I'd also like to focus on photojournalism. It's a very important part of what we do at our awards dinner and it adds another dimension to the way in which journalists cover the news.

What about the membership? Are there people you'd like to recruit?

We're always eager to attract the next generation of foreign correspondents. We had a great evening, which Michael Moran of MSNBC put together and moderated, on satellite technology. There were young graphics people from the Associated Press and a lot of others I hadn't seen before. I think that an event like that, that's sort of off the beaten path, may attract new people to the organization.

What are the challenges facing the organization?

The challenge would be to see how we can use technology to further the interests of the OPC, in terms of our Website, allowing members to communicate with each other and with the board, and making information accessi-



OPC President Alexis Gelber

ble to a wider range of people. We've also talked about publishing a book with excerpts of our award winning articles and photographs.

What do you see as the key issues for foreign correspondents now?

The war coverage raised a lot of very interesting issues about what the role of the press is in covering a war. Was the embedding program a success and in whose eyes? These are issues we'll want to address in the coming year as we move farther away from the actual fighting: What lessons did we learn from the coverage of the war?

We're in this war/post-war climate and we're very much focused on hard news and breaking news. That's obviously always going to be central to what we do as an organization and to what our members do with their professional lives, but there are lots of other issues that are truly international that we should be addressing.

What kinds of issues?

Health issues, the AIDS crisis. SARS was a reminder that news isn't just about

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Surrender—Then Jail—In Indonesia

By Jeremy Main

Freedom of the Press Committee

William Nessen, 46, an OPC member and freelance journalist, walked out of the jungle in Aceh in northern Indonesia on June 24 and surrendered to an Indonesian officer after spending more than a month traveling and hiding with rebels of the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). He was then interrogated and jailed on charges of violating immigration laws.

In 2000, Nessen became the first winner of OPC's Dan Eldon scholarship, given in honor of a Reuters photographer who was stoned to death by a mob in Mogadishu in 1993. Nessen, then a recent graduate of the Columbia School of Journalism, won the scholarship on the strength of his reporting from East Timor, where he had traveled with the guerrillas fighting Indonesian troops.

Nessen, who is married to an Acehese, went to Aceh most recently on May 12, reportedly to gather material for a book and a documentary. On May 19, the Indonesian army opened an offensive against the GAM and declared martial law in the province. Journalists were ordered out, but Nessen found himself trapped in a war zone.

Nothing was heard from him until June 18 when the Australian Broadcast-



OPC member William Nessen gives himself up to Indonesian troops in Aceh.

ing Corporation reported that his wife, Shadia Marhadan, had talked to him by cell phone. Marhadan told the ABC that Nessen said he was in a dangerous situation and wanted to get out. Then she heard gunshots, and Nessen said he had to run.

The ABC reached Nessen on his cell phone five days later and got a possible explanation of what had happened dur-

ing that abbreviated conversation. Nessen said he had come close to surrendering, but that a cameraman beside him, who had his arms raised, was shot dead. Nessen fled immediately, losing his laptop and other equipment, and keeping only his cell phone and two toothbrushes. He told the ABC he feared for his life.

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Middle East—Covering the Coverage

by Al Kaff

From the Middle East, a report on correspondents killed in Baghdad, journalists jailed in Iran, search for a missing TV crew, a Japanese correspondent imprisoned, a guilty plea, the David Bloom Award, rockets damage a TV news studio, the London press, gimmicks for Private Lynch, questions about her capture and release, and broadcasts against the Iranian government beamed from Los Angeles to Iran.

May 27

After interviewing a dozen reporters who witnessed the event, the Washington-based Committee to Protect Journalists said it found no evidence that American forces were fired on from Baghdad's Palestine Hotel before they shelled the building, killing two of nearly 100 journalists staying there. The April 8 tank attack killed Tara Protsyuks, 35, a Reuters cameraman, and José Couso, 37, of Spain's Telecinco. They were filming fighting from the hotel's balconies. Six days after the incident, Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke wrote to the Committee that "coalition forces were fired upon and acted in self-defense by returning fire." In a letter to Spain's foreign minister, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said the American tank fired in response to "hostile fire appearing to come from a location later identified as the Palestine Hotel." Christopher Marquis of *The New York Times* Washington bureau wrote: "The Committee said that Pentagon officials and field commanders in Baghdad were aware that the Palestine Hotel was full of foreign journalists and were determined not to hit it." In its 11-page report issued in May, the Committee said: "These senior commanders apparently failed to convey their concern to the tank commander who fired on the hotel." The Committee said its investigation concluded that the attack on the journalists, while not intentional, could have been avoided.

May 28

Even before seven Iranian journalists were sentenced to prison in May and stripped of their civil rights for 10 years, "Iran had more journalists in jail than any other country in the Middle East," the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee wrote in a letter to Sayed Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, supreme leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the end of 2002, ten

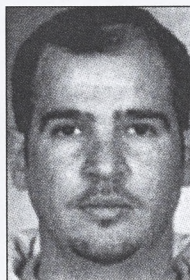
Iranian journalists were in jail, the Committee's Jeremy Main and Kevin McDermott wrote, adding that 85 Iranian newspapers have been shut down since 2000. Journalists were charged with activities considered legitimate elsewhere. For example, publishing a public opinion poll showing that Iranians favored talks with the United States was deemed by one court as "passing information to enemy countries."

May 30

British Royal Military Police, a private corporate-security firm and French officials are searching for two crewmen from Britain's Independent Television News or their bodies. Fred Nerac, a French cameraman, and Hussein Osman, a Lebanese



Fred Nerac



Hussein Osman

translator, have been missing since March 22 when their vehicle was stopped by Iraqi fighters during a clash between American and Iraqi forces. They were traveling with two other members of the ITN crew: correspondent Terry Lloyd, who was killed in the incident, and cameraman Daniel Demoustier, who survived.

June 1

Hiroki Gomi, a photographer for *Mainichi Shimbun*, a Japan national daily, was sentenced to one and a half years in prison after a bomb he picked up as a souvenir during the Iraqi War exploded in the Amman, Jordan, airport, killing a security guard and wounding three people. The cluster bomb detonated May 1, killing the guard who was searching his bag. Gomi said he did not know the bomb was live, AP reported. In a statement, the Tokyo newspaper said: "We take this verdict seriously and would like to express again our condolences to the relatives of the deceased and our apologies to those who were injured."

June 3

Benjamin J. Johnson, 27, a former Fox News technician, pleaded guilty in an Alexandria, Virginia, court to smuggling a dozen paintings he took from an

Iraqi presidential palace. Customs agents at Virginia's Dulles International Airport discovered the paintings in Johnson's luggage when he returned from Iraq April 17. Fox News fired him. He faces up to five years in prison.

Geraldo Rivera, who covered U.S. troops in Iraq for Fox News until the American military kicked him out for allegedly breaking security, said the war was justified even though U.S. claims that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction probably were false. "What we did was rid the world of a vicious dictator," he said in a TV interview, although weapons of mass destruction "apparently do not exist" and "our main intention for doing it [going to war] was false."

June 5

NBC News established the David Bloom Award to be given annually to journalists who display excellence in enterprise field reporting. Bloom, 39, an NBC correspondent, died in April from a pulmonary embolism while covering the war in Iraq.

June 15

Two rockets were fired at Future TV's building in Beirut, causing extensive
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GELBER INTERVIEW

(Continued from Page 1)

politics and military issues. There are obviously business and economic issues, and environmental issues. We always get an enormous number of awards submissions in a category we have for coverage of environmental subjects. Those sorts of things should also be on our agenda.

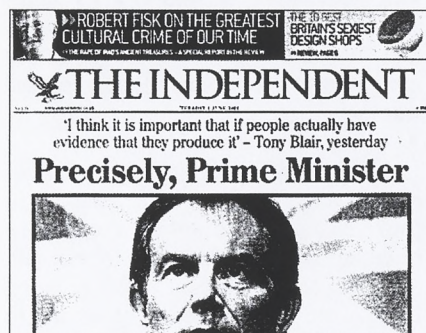
Among some members of the press, there's a sense that there's a lack of interest on the part of U.S. readers and viewers in what's going on in the rest of the world. Do share that frustration?

I think it should be a challenge to us as journalists. Some of the lack of interest may be a failure of imagination on our part in terms of the way we think about news, present news and engage people in issues beyond breaking news. I edited a number of special issues for *Newsweek* on early childhood development. They were translated into Japanese, Korean, Russian, and Chinese, and were enormously popular. They sold like crazy everywhere.

COVERING THE COVERAGE

(Continued from Page 3)

damage to a news studio. A group called Ansar Allah (Partisans of God) claimed responsibility for the assault and threatened attacks against "anyone, no matter how influential he is, who directs his poisonous arrows at the heart of the resistance and jihad and Mujaheddin." Lebanese Interior Minister Elias Murr linked the TV station bombing to a terrorist network blamed for recent bomb attacks on U.S. fast-food restaurants and other targets in Beirut and northern Lebanon, AP reported. Future TV is widely watched in the Arab world, especially in the Persian Gulf region.



British papers, pounding Prime Minister Tony Blair over Iraq, question why President Bush gets such comparatively gentle treatment by US media.

June 16

Howard Kurtz, media reporter for *The Washington Post*, visited London to examine how British newspapers are reporting on post-war Iraq. Under a London dateline, he wrote: "George W. Bush bloody well has it easy. He doesn't have to put up with the hour-by-hour pounding that the British press gives Tony Blair, with journalists calling him a liar and worse in a raging debate over whether Iraq really had weapons of mass destruction. A week's excursion here provided a spot-on contrast with the American media, most of which pursue the weapons issue with tea-and-crumpets politeness compared with the screaming headlines inflicted on the prime minister—along with his American counterpart, the subject

of a London play called 'The Madness of George Dubya'.... And what American paper would run a cartoon, as the *Times* of London did, with the words 'Yes, Folks, You Can Trust Us!' emanating from the leader of the country's rear end?"

The New York Times reported that TV networks were trying all sorts of gimmicks to obtain an exclusive interview with Jessica D. Lynch, 20, the U.S. Army private first class who was recuperating in Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington after being captured and then rescued during the Iraq fighting. *The Times'* Jim Rutenberg wrote that Katie Couric of NBC News sent Lynch a bundle of patriotic books including "Leadership," a memoir written by former New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Diane Sawyer of ABC News sent a locket with a photograph of Lynch's family home in Palestine, West Virginia. CBS News combined its pitch for a two-hour documentary with proposals from CBS Entertainment for a movie, MTV networks for Lynch and her friends to co-host a music video, and Simon & Schuster for a book.

June 17

In an April 3 article under the headline "She Was Fighting to the Death," *The Washington Post* became the first news organization to publish an account of Jessica Lynch's capture and release. But 10 weeks later after a lengthy investigation, *The Post* discredited some of the early reports, writing in part: "Lynch tried to fire her weapon but it jammed, according to military officials familiar with the Army investigation. She did not kill any Iraqis. She was neither shot nor stabbed, they said." In a *New York Times* article, David D. Kirkpatrick wrote: "Subsequent reports by *The Post* and other news organizations have cast doubt on several aspects of the initial portrayals of her story, raising questions about whether the United States military



Jessica Lynch



Rescued Private Lynch

manipulated the episode for propaganda purposes and about whether American news organizations were seduced by a gripping, patriotic tale."

June 21

Four satellite TV broadcasters in Los Angeles are beaming programs to Iran to support Iranian student protests against the Tehran government. They are National Iranian TV, Azadei, PARS TV, and Channel One. Shahram Homayoon, an Iranian journalist based in Los Angeles, is Channel One's on-air host for up to 21 hours a day. He fields phone calls from Iranians and then broadcasts the experiences and emotions of the demonstrators back to their own country. By telephone to Nazila Fathi, a *New York Times* reporter in Tehran, Homayoon said he will continue "until people reach freedom."

July 5

Richard Wild, 24, a freelance British journalist, was killed while covering a demonstration outside the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad. Shot with a single bullet fired at close range, Wild had arrived in Iraq from London only two weeks earlier, determined to become a foreign correspondent. He formerly worked for Britain's ITN television news.

July 6

Jeremy Little, 27, an Australian television soundman working for NBC News, died of postoperative complications in a German hospital a week after he was wounded while traveling with the 3rd U.S. Infantry Division in Falluja, Iraq. "Jeremy Little was a courageous journalist working extremely hard in a dangerous war zone," NBC News President and OPC member Neal Shapiro said. Little was the 17th journalist to die in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in March. Some of the deaths were accidental or due to natural causes.

Iraj Jamshidi, editor-in-chief of Tehran's *Asia Financial Daily*, and his wife, Saghi Bagherinia, the newspaper's managing editor, were jailed by an Iranian press court after their paper published a photograph and article about an exiled Iranian opposition leader. Published on page one, the material dealt with the release from jail in France of Maryam Rajavi, leader of the National Council of Resistance of Iran. "We were charged with propaganda against the system for publishing a picture and article," Jamshidi told the ISNA student news agency before he and his wife were taken to prison, Reuters reported. The Paris-based Reporters Without Borders said 17 journalists are in jail in Iran.

Journalists *Can* Waltz...

And Other Notes From Vienna

by Sonya K. Fry

The European Press Club Federation meetings in Vienna yielded not only camaraderie, a chance to visit the lovely city of the Hapsburgs, and a Viennese Ball, but also four new reciprocal members for the OPC: Antwerp, Budapest, Malta and Strasbourg.

We also began arranging for European press clubs to visit New York City and the OPC in the fall of 2004. The trip has been years in the making: The idea first came up at a meeting of the European Press Federation in Geneva in 2001, but the plans were disrupted first by 9/11, and then by the war in Iraq. Now, despite recent tension between the U.S. and Europe, enthusiasm for such a trip remains high. Two representatives from the London Press Club even had some concrete ideas on how to raise the necessary funds. They also suggested an exchange between the London Press Club and the OPC—something we're working to set up.

But it wasn't all business. On the final evening, we were scheduled to attend the Concordia Ball, an annual social event for journalists. The men had been told to bring a tux and the ladies a long gown, so we knew it was going to be fancy, but none of us were prepared for a true Viennese Ball. I figured it would be a dinner-dance—because jour-



Martyn Bond and David Selves of the London Press Club escort OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry to the Concordia Ball, held in Vienna's gothic city hall.

nalists don't waltz. Drinking yes; waltzing no! When we saw the entire ballroom lined on both sides with men in tuxedos, women in white long gowns and young children in red and white dresses and knickers, we suddenly understood how serious the Viennese—even the journalists—were about their balls. Then, as we descended the grand

staircase of the city hall and heard applause from those gathered on the floor below, we realized that we were in fact the honored guests. Of course, the only thought that went through my head at this point was: "Oh please don't let me trip." Once we were seated, the entire room broke into the waltz. It was a lovely and unforgettable evening.

Submit Your Entries!

Two organizations have journalism awards to give out, and the deadlines are coming up.

The UN Correspondents Association will be awarding two prizes: the **Eighth Annual UNCA Awards** for best written and electronic media coverage of the United Nations, its agencies and field operations; and the **Third Annual UNCA/Ranan Lurie Award for Political Cartoons**. The top awards in both categories are worth \$10,000. Two smaller prizes in each category will also be given out. The deadline for both UN awards is August 31.

The first is named this year for the *Boston Globe* UN bureau chief

Elizabeth Neuffer, who died on assignment in Baghdad earlier in 2003.

Send two copies of your work to: UNCA-Elizabeth Neuffer Award; UNCA, United Nations, New York, NY 10017. Send courier/express packages to: Ian Williams, Chairman, UNCA Awards Committee, 343 East 30th Street, #11K, New York, NY 10016, Tel: (212) 686-8884.

For the cartoon award, send entries to: The UNCA/Ranan Lurie Political Cartoon Award, 375 Park Avenue, Suite 1301, New York, NY 10152, Tel: (212) 980-0855.

For additional information, check the website: www.LurieUNAward.com.

CYBERSECURITY JOURNALISM AWARD

Carnegie Mellon University's Center for Computer and Communications Security has created a new **Cybersecurity Journalism Award** to recognize outstanding work by writers, editors and producers who have helped give viewers and readers a better understanding of the ongoing war against terrorism. Two awards, worth \$2,500 each, will be presented on October 27. For additional information, call Christine Swaney at 412-268-5776 or Email her at swaney@andrew.cmu.edu. The deadline is August 1.



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ARDSLEY, New York: Julia Gabrielle Pimsleur, 35,

director of fund-raising and outreach for the Committee to Protect Journalists in New York, and Rabbi Darren Stuart Levine, 30, were married June 21 at Woodlands Community Temple in Ardsley. Pimsleur founded Big Mouth Productions, a documentary film company, and was its president 1997-2002. With John Leguizamo, she produced "Nuyorican Dream" that followed the struggles of a Puerto Rican family in New York. Levine was ordained in May by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute in Religion in New York.



Darren Levine and Julia Gabrielle Pimsleur

ATCHISON, Kansas: A single-engine Cessna flew over the Forest of Friendship on the morning of June 21, and from it Linton Wells II scattered the ashes of his mother, **Fay Gillis Wells**, a founder of the OPC who died last December at age 94. The Forest, which honors pioneers of flight and space, was established in 1976 by the 99s, an international order of women pilots that Fay started in 1929. Fay served as the Forest's co-chair until her death. Containing trees from all 50 states and the 35 countries represented by honorees, the memorial Forest was created in this Missouri River town of 10,600 population because it was the birthplace of Fay's friend, aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart.

The ceremony honoring Fay was part of the annual weekend memorial program held at the Forest. In addition to Fay's son, special guests included his



Fay Gillis Wells

wife Linda, who accompanied Fay to several OPC annual awards dinners, and Linton and Linda's two sons. A jazz band played in honor of Fay during dinner in Benedictine College. "Fay liked to party so we have a jazz band on Friday night because she didn't want anyone sitting around crying," said Kay Baker, the Forest's executive director. Also on the flight during the scattering of ashes was **Marilyn Fontenot**, an *Atchison Daily Globe* reporter who has covered Fay's visits to Atchison. Marilyn wrote: "Mrs. Wells was a pilot and a journalist who covered the war in Ethiopia and politics at the White House. She loved excitement and traveled the world tracking down adventure....No one will ever forget the bubbly and spunky lady who held flying and the 99s in her heart until the day she died."

ATHENS: OPC member **Elias Demetracopoulos** has filed a law suit against Henry Kissinger in the Supreme Court in Athens, charging the former U.S. secretary of state of complicity with Greece's military dictatorship in two plots to kidnap and murder him in the 1970s. Demetracopoulos, a Greek journalist now based in Washington, has long contended that he angered Kissinger and other U.S. policy makers by campaigning in the 1960s and 1970s against the Greek junta when Washington supported it. **Lydia Maniatis** wrote in the May-June issue of *Odyssey* magazine: "Demetracopoulos hopes the case will one day make it to the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague."

CAIRO: An appeals court this spring upheld the one-year prison sentence for libel charges against **Mustafa Bakri**, editor-in-chief of *Al Osboa*. With close ties to some Egyptian officials, the independent weekly newspaper has been publishing anti-Israel, anti-America and pro-Saddam Hussein editorials, *The New York Times* reported. Bakri and his brother, **Mahmoud**, who works for the paper, were accused of publishing libelous articles three years ago about the personal life of Muhammad Abdel-Aal, leader of the small opposition Social Justice Party, who is serving 10 years in prison for accepting bribes from a businessman.

DUBLIN: A portrait of Brian Meehan, who was convicted in the 1996 murder of newspaper reporter **Veronica Guerin** and is serving a life sentence, was included in an exhibition this year of more than 480 paintings at the Royal Hibernian Academy. Protests followed. Retired Detective Inspector Gerry O'Carroll, one of the first officers to arrive at the murder scene, told *The Mirror*, a Dublin daily, that the painting was "highly insensitive to such a recent case that shocked not just Ireland but the world," Agence France-Presse reported. Guerin, who covered crime for Dublin's daily *Independent*, was fatally shot by a gunman on a motorcycle when her car was stopped at a red light.

LONDON: To trim costs, the Reuters Group eliminated the position of chief operating officer in June. The group's management committee, headed by its chief executive, **Tom Glocer**, took direct control of operations. **Philip Green**, who was the chief operating officer, left the company June 30, Bloomberg News reported.



Tom Glocer

MINSK, Belarus: The Belarus government suspended the nation's oldest and largest independent daily, *The Belarusian Business Newspaper*, for three months starting in late May, citing violations of media laws. *The New York Times* quoted **Irina Khalip**, the paper's deputy editor, as saying editors received three warnings, one for "insulting the honor and dignity of the president" by printing poll results and two for reporting on criminal cases moving through the courts.

MOSCOW: The Duma, the lower house of the Russian Parliament, voted overwhelmingly in June to amend Russia's campaign laws so that authorities can shut down news organizations for campaign coverage deemed to be biased. The amendments, drafted by President Vladimir V. Putin's government, still need approval of Parliament's upper house and Putin's signature before becoming law. Parliamentary elections are scheduled for December and the presidential election next March. In a dispatch from Moscow, **Steven Lee Myers** of *The New York Times* wrote: "Taken to

their literal extremes, as opponents assume they will be, the new restrictions would for the first time punish news organizations that advocate one candidate over another, that editorialize against a position or policy, or that report critically on questions of character 'not related to the candidate's professional duties.'"

Meanwhile, the Press Ministry closed TVS, Russia's last independent television channel, citing a financial crisis that left many employees unpaid for weeks. TVS is to be replaced by a state-owned sports channel.

Six former Russian military officers will be retried after their acquittal in the 1994 murder of reporter **Dmitri Kholodov**, who had been investigating corruption in the armed forces for the daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets*. The Supreme Court's Military Collegium sent the case back to the military court that cleared the defendants last year. But the charges will be heard by different judges, Reuters reported. Kholodov was blown up in his office after receiving a briefcase containing documents he said were passed to him by a contact in the intelligence services.

MULTAN, Pakistan: In late May, Pakistani police arrested Qari Abdul Hayee, an Islamic militant who is suspected of helping plan and carry out last year's kidnapping and murder of *Wall Street Journal* reporter **Daniel Pearl**. Police said Hayee is a senior member of Lashkar-e Jhangvi, a banned sectarian group, and one of the most wanted militants in Pakistan. **David Rohde** of *The New York Times* reported. The suspect was arrested outside Multan when he went there to visit relatives.

NEWARK, Ohio: When **Beverly Rowe** was 5 years old, a black man who worked on her aunt's farm drove Beverly and her mother to a train station. "He said he couldn't go in the train station because he was black," Rowe told a May luncheon in Newark sponsored by local representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "I couldn't understand that. Right then I became interested in civil rights." A member of the



Beverly Rowe

OPC since 1977, Beverly wrote on civil rights topics in the 1960s. She interviewed black musicians Cab Calloway and Nat King Cole "as well as many black families who lived in barren circumstances," Beverly wrote in a note to **Sonya Fry**, OPC executive director. Rowe added: "As I said in my speech, 'a friend recently told me my typewriter looks like it belongs in the Smithsonian. Perhaps I belong there, too. I am now 70 years of age.'"

NEW YORK: OPC member **Myrna Blyth** left magazine editing in June to finish a book on women and the media for St. Martin's Press. Since last summer, she was editorial director of *More*, a magazine she founded in 1998 for women in their 40s and 50s. For the previous 21 years she was editor-in-chief of *Ladies' Home Journal*. Blyth was also a vice president and editorial director of new-product development at Meredith Corporation, publisher of the magazines. She continues to serve on the President's Commission on White House Fellows. Myrna told **David Carr** of *The New York Times* that one article she was particularly proud of was her interview with Marina Oswald, wife of President Kennedy assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, who recanted her testimony before the Warren Commission. Blyth commented: "I think that magazines are very much alike these days...[Magazines] are more interested in the media reflection of what women are like than what women are really like."

In August, OPC member **Walter Cronkite**, 86, will start writing a weekly column for King Features. As to why he decided to write for a newspaper syndicate, the retired CBS News anchor told **Lloyd Grove** of *The Washington Post*: "I don't know why, I'm a damn fool, I guess. The stock answer is that I am interested in what's going on in this world of ours, and I spent my lifetime reporting it in one form or another. And in the time I have available, this will give me an opportunity to do this sort of thing." Cronkite said he intends to write every word himself on topics ranging from politics and policy to developments in the media business.



Walter Cronkite

Instead of sending birthday greetings on the 10th anniversary of Eritrea's independence this spring, **Jeremy Main** and **Kevin McDermott** of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee sent Eritrea's president, Isaias Afewerki, a demand that his "government stop crushing freedom of expression," charging: "Eritrea is the biggest jail for journalists in Africa." In their letter, Main and McDermott said Eritrea was holding 18 journalists without charge, without trials and without disclosing their whereabouts. Also, 50 other Eritrean journalists fled to the United States or Europe, and Eritrea has banned all private newspapers since 2001.

In another protest from the Freedom of the Press Committee, co-chairmen **Norman A. Schorr** and **Larry Martz** wrote to Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo "to deplore the murder on May 17 of radio announcer, **Apolinario 'Polly' Pobeda**, who was gunned down by seven bullets from two assailants as he rode his motorcycle to work." In his radio program "Who Are They?" Pobeda had charged local officials with corruption and accused Ramon Talaga, mayor of Lucena City, with being involved in drug trade. At least 62 Filipino journalists have been killed for their work since 1981 [June *Bulletin*].

Gordon F. Joseloff, a former CBS News correspondent in New York, Moscow and Tokyo who earlier reported for UPI from New York, London and Moscow, suggests that Harry Potter books should be serialized in newspapers. In his letter published in *The New York Times* in June after the latest Potter book went on sale, Joseloff wrote: "The best thing about the Harry Potter phenomenon is that it is getting kids to read again. But it is regrettable that no newspaper serial rights were sold. Imagine what a boon it would have been to have millions of kids picking up a newspaper to read excerpts. That would have been real wizardry." Joseloff now lives in Westport, Connecticut, where he is moderator of the Representative Town Meeting (chief honcho of the town's elected council), an emergency medical technician and volunteer fireman.

Acting on a request from the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Pulitzer Prize Board is reviewing the 1932 award given to **Walter Duranty**,

(Continued on Page 12)

Candidates for the 2003 OPC Board of C

Enclosed in your Bulletin is a ballot for the 2003 OPC elections. Please return it by August 16 in the colored envelope provided.

ACTIVE

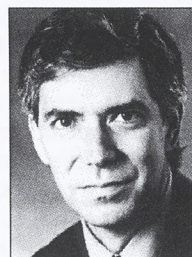
MICHAEL GLENNON

Michael Glennon is the senior editor at cfr.org, the website of the New York based Council on Foreign Relations. The site publishes news analysis pieces, in a Q&A format, and interviews that draw on the expertise of council fellows and staff, former government officials and other foreign policy experts. Glennon also edits terrorismanswers.org, the Council's award-winning website on the war on terror. Before joining the Council in 2002, Glennon spent a year at Bloomberg News, where he oversaw coverage of the war in Afghanistan. Prior to that, he spent nearly eight years at *Newsweek*. He was *Newsweek's* chief of foreign correspondents for much of that time, responsible for the magazine's network of foreign-based reporters. He also filled a variety of senior editing positions at *Newsweek's* domestic and international editions, where he shaped coverage for readers of the U.S. foreign section and *Newsweek's* three overseas editions.



JOHN R. MacARTHUR

Rick MacArthur is an award-winning reporter and author, as well as the publisher of *Harper's Magazine*, a position he has held since 1983—three years after he initiated the magazine's rescue with the formation of the Harper's Magazine Foundation. He writes a monthly column for the *Providence Journal* and for Canada's



national newspaper, the *Globe & Mail*. MacArthur is the author of two books: "Second Front: Censorship and Propaganda in the Gulf War" and most recently, "The Selling of 'Free Trade': NAFTA, Washington and the Subversion of American Democracy." His work has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Nation* among others.

KEVIN McDERMOTT

As a board alternate, McDermott has co-chaired the Freedom of the Press Committee, which amplifies the OPC's voice on behalf of persecuted journalists around the world. He looks forward to continuing the expansion of the committee's activities and with it, the Club's profile on issues affecting free expression and the rights of our colleagues everywhere. McDermott consults on web-content development, creating new tools to gather business and economic intelligence. He has reported from France for *The Washington Post* and *Saveur*, from England for *The New York Times* and from Haiti for *The Atlantic Monthly*. A short story drawing on his experiences in Haiti was nominated for a Pushcart Prize and included among the list of distinguished short fiction in Best American Short Stories.



MICHAEL MORAN

Michael Moran is Senior Correspondent of MSNBC.com, a job he assumed in May after running the site's international coverage and its special reports team for six years. During two decades in journalism, Moran has won a variety of awards for his writing, broadcasting and stewardship of in-depth features, among them a New York Times Publisher's Award, an Edward R. Murrow citation and several Sigma Delta Chi awards. He has been an active alternate member of the OPC's board of directors since 1999, and in the past year orga-



nized a highly successful OPC talk on the impact of satellite and Internet technology on war coverage (Oct. 2002). He also contributed a piece to the current edition of *Dateline*.

Moran began as a news clerk in *The New York Times* Washington bureau in 1982, working a full time night/weekend gig while attending George Washington University. He subsequently worked for the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, *St. Petersburg Times*, States News Service, and the Associated Press before being posted abroad in 1990 by Radio Free Europe, then based in Munich. There, he covered the collapse of communism and the war in the Balkans, and in 1993, became U.S. Affairs Analyst at the BBC in London, a post he held until returning to the U.S. for MSNBC's launch in 1996. His reporting also has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post*, *The Independent*, *The Spectator* (UK) and National Public Radio.

CAIT MURPHY

As senior editor at *Fortune*, Cait Murphy works to develop the magazine's international coverage. She also writes regularly on economic and international issues. Before joining *Fortune* in 1998, she worked at the *Economist* magazine in London, writing initially on social policy and then on energy and the environment. Prior to the *Economist*, she worked as editorial page editor at *The Asian Wall Street Journal*. Cait graduated from Amherst College, where she majored in American studies—ironic training for a career spent largely overseas.



JAMES O'SHEA

Jim O'Shea is Managing Editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, a position he has held since February 2001. In an era when many news organizations are cutting back on foreign coverage and



f Governors

closing bureaus, the *Tribune* considers its 11 foreign bureaus vital to providing its readers with an understanding of the world and how the world views the United States. O'Shea takes pride in the many foreign projects the newspaper consistently undertakes, drawing on the skills of journalists throughout the staff.

O'Shea got his start in journalism as a U.S. Army reporter covering Korea for Army publications and *Stars and Stripes*. After working at the *Des Moines Register* as a reporter, financial editor and Washington correspondent, he joined the *Tribune* in 1979. There, he covered local, financial, national and foreign news before becoming Associate Managing Editor for foreign and national news in 1990 and Deputy Managing Editor for news in 1995.

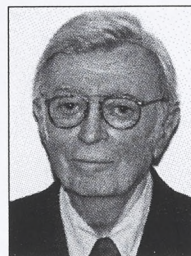
DAVID SCHLESINGER

David Schlesinger has been EVP and Editor, Americas for Reuters since May 2000. Based in New York, he is responsible for the output of the 650 journalists, cameramen, photographers and deskers in North and South America. David transferred to New York in 1995 as Financial Editor for the Americas and also served as Managing Editor for the Americas. He joined Reuters in 1987 in Hong Kong as a correspondent. He then ran Reuters editorial operations in Taiwan, China and the Greater China region in a series of posts between 1989 and 1995. Prior to joining Reuters he wrote for a variety of publications in Hong Kong and had an early career as a teacher. Schlesinger graduated from Oberlin College and has a Masters degree from Harvard University, where he concentrated on Chinese politics.



NORMAN SCHORR

An award-winning press freedom activist, Schorr revived OPC's dormant Freedom of the Press Committee and for the past 20 years has been its co-chair. In 2002, the committee



of eight active members prepared and dispatched more than 100 protests of press freedom violations to heads of state in 65 countries. "Our appeals have helped gain freedom for some imprisoned journalists and have helped improve the treatment of others," Schorr says. A veteran OPC member, Schorr has served in club leadership roles as first vice president, treasurer, awards chairman and member of the Board of Governors. The Society of Professional Journalists (Sigma Delta Chi) in New York honored his press freedom work by presenting him its First Amendment Award. Schorr was a UPI newsmen, a *Detroit Free Press* correspondent and a freelance writer of magazine articles. During World War II, he was an Army press officer in the Philippines.

ASSOCIATE

ANN CHARTERS

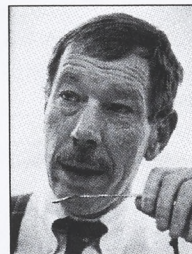
A former journalist with 23 years of overseas experience, Charters is currently the chairman of Off-the-Record, a 650-member lecture series affiliated with the Foreign Policy Association, as well as a member of the executive committee and board of the Foreign Policy Association. She is active with several organizations—the Manhattan Institute, the Council of the Americas and the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs—where she works to apply urban policy initiatives to situations in Latin America. She also serves on the Department Disciplinary Committee of the New York Supreme Court Appellate Division. Before moving to New York, she was a correspondent for the *Financial Times* in South Korea, Brazil and Venezuela, the *Economist* in South Korea, and *BusinessWeek*, *Privatisation International* and *Latin Finance* in Venezuela. After returning to the US in 1995, she worked as a consultant for Zemi Communications, a firm specializing in investor relations and strategic planning for emerging market firms. As an OPC board member, she would help link OPC



journalists with the foreign policy community in New York City.

PETER CULLUM

Peter Cullum is a freelance writer and vice president of Donley Communications in New York City. He has been with the firm since 1988. Following a stint as a U.S. Marine Corps Congressional Relations Officer, Cullum was a staff writer for four years with the *Passaic Herald-News* (NJ) covering local, county and state politics. He is the author of *Bicentennial Vignettes*, a 268-part series chronicling the first year of the Revolutionary War. Cullum's articles have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *The New York Times*, *Barrons* and *Institutional Investor*, and he has lectured on business journalism at the Columbia Journalism school. He has a B.A. in history from Upsala College and an M.A. in politics from Drew University. Prior to working with Donley Communications, Cullum was director of corporate communications at COMEX and director of public affairs at Citicorp Information Services. He also was an account supervisor at Burson-Marsteller.



YVONNE DUNLEAVY

Yvonne Dunleavy began her journalism career in Sydney, Australia and subsequently worked in Hong Kong for the English language daily, *The Hong Kong Standard*. There, she covered the riots associated with China's cultural revolution in the late 1960s. In the U.S., she became editor-in-chief of *Coronet Magazine*, a Warner Communications monthly, and supervised its transition from a general interest to a women's content publication. She has written for the *New York Daily News*, *New York Post*, UPI, *Ladies Home Journal* and *New Woman* and is the author of several non-fiction books. She has been an enthusiastic member of the OPC for five years.



China's Uighurs: A Photo Diary

Freelance photographer Ron Wurzer spent five weeks in China's northwestern province of Xinjiang in September 2002 and February 2003 documenting the Uighur people, a predominantly Muslim minority. Wurzer, who lives in Seattle and shoots news photos for papers and magazines there, became interested in Muslim

culture after trips to Syria, Iran, Lebanon, Tunisia, and Palestinian territories.

In Xinjiang, Wurzer found the Uighurs at odds with China's Han majority. China has been cracking down on accused Uighur separatists since September 11th, and that has made a poor relationship between the two groups even worse.

"People on the streets are afraid to talk politics with strangers," Wurzer writes, "but some will whisper the words 'East Turkestan' in your ear, if they feel you are sympathetic to their plight." East Turkestan is the historical names of Xingjang, and Uighurs say they can be arrested for uttering those words.

Wurzer can be reached at RonWurzer@hotmail.com



PHOTOS BY RON WURZER

A Uighur family prays together at a cemetery in Kashgar, China during the annual Muslim holiday of Qurban Heit held in February this year.



A statue of Mao looks down on locals as they make their way in downtown Kashgar, the cultural center of China's Uighur minority.



A Uighur gets a haircut at the Kashgar Sunday Market. Thousands of people crowd into the city every Sunday to stock up on goods.

NESSEN

(Continued from Page 2)

Both sides in the campaign against GAM have made Aceh an extremely dangerous place for journalists. The body of an Indonesian cameraman for state TV, Jamaluddin, who had been missing in Aceh since May and reported kidnapped by GAM, was recovered late in June. On July 1, two Indonesian TV journalists and their driver went missing. They have since been reported to be safe, but in the hands of the GAM. Several other journalists have said their cars were fired on as they drove through Aceh.

The OPC, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), and other organizations of journalists wrote to Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri urging her to make sure Nessen could leave the country safely. Senator Richard Lugar (R., Indiana) also spoke out on his behalf.

On June 24, after receiving assurances from the Indonesian army that he would not be shot, Nessen walked to a rendezvous, smiling but gaunt, and was met by an Indonesian army officer and a U.S. consular officer. The New York-based CPJ, which took part in the negotiations leading to Nessen's emergence from GAM territory, understood he was to be released immediately. However, he was questioned for two days and then formally detained by the police, who, as this Bulletin went to press, were holding him in jail in Banda Aceh, the capital of Aceh, on the northern tip of Sumatra.

The police said Nessen will be charged with visa violations, and then either jailed or deported. They are still questioning him about his ties to the Free Aceh Movement. His lawyer is allowed to see him. A U.S. consular official is remaining in Banda to follow Nessen's case, according to the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta.

To keep other journalists from contacting GAM, the government issued new regulations on June 26. Journalists must now get the approval of two government agencies in Jakarta and then, on arriving in Aceh, report to the martial law administrator. They may not travel outside major towns without a military escort.

Nessen came to journalism in middle life, after spending many years as an activist for various causes throughout the world. He traveled to Germany,

France, the Middle East, and Africa where, according to his father, Maurice, a lawyer, he lived with a pygmy tribe. He returned to the U.S. to recover from malaria and became involved in attempts to shut down a nuclear plant in New Hampshire. He started a health food bakery in San Diego, which he ran successfully for seven years and then gave to his employees.

Having dropped out of Yale many

years before, he now decided to get his degree at the University of Washington, which he did, with honors, after spending his senior year in Indonesia. He then earned a master's degree in journalism from Columbia in 2000. He returned to Indonesia as a freelance correspondent. He is accredited by the San Francisco *Chronicle*, and has also contributed to the *Boston Globe* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

N.Y. Conference Decries Threat to Internet Freedom

By Norman A. Schorr
and Larry Martz

Freedom of the Press Committee

At a three-day New York conference, more than 100 leading advocates of press freedom from Europe, Asia and the Americas issued a call for press freedom on the Internet and heard warnings that this year's World Summit on the Information Society threatens to impose censorship on cyberspace.

The June 26-28 conference, sponsored by the World Press Freedom Committee and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York (with the OPC among several co-sponsors), endorsed a 16-point statement calling for freedom in cyberspace. The statement said that news media on the Internet should have the same rights as traditional media, and that no new rules or principles are needed to control them.

Participants also expressed grave concern over the UN-sponsored World Summit, which will have its first formal meeting in Geneva in December. The stated aim of the Summit is to establish "a more inclusive and equitable Information Society" in the new electronic world. But some press freedom advocates are skeptical: They warn that many of the organizers of the Summit are the same people who backed the movement in UNESCO for a "new world information and communication order" 20 years ago, using the same phrases and code words to control and censor free media.

Ron Koven, the WPFC's European representative, said that preliminary meetings to prepare for the Summit have produced a draft document that advocates freedom of the press only as far as

local laws permit it. The draft also endorses monitoring for terrorism, requiring "appropriate content" of Internet news, and setting up a "rapid action organization to deal with security violations." After a long battle, press freedom advocates did manage to include a call to implement and reaffirm Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

One veteran diplomat at the New York conference said privately that if the repressive clauses remain in the final draft, they will be used by authoritarian governments to justify censorship no matter what high principles are included.

Dr. Kim R. Holmes, Assistant Secretary of State, said the U.S. delegation to the Summit would do its best not to "allow the Summit to infringe in any way on press freedom." But when asked by Seymour Topping, former managing editor of *The New York Times* and an OPC member, whether the Administration's priority on fighting terrorism would influence the delegation's position, Holmes said the problem would be finding the right "balance" of liberty and security.

As Guy-Olivier Segond, special ambassador for the World Summit, bluntly reminded the conference: "Everywhere on the planet, there are limits to the freedom of expression....It is logical that these limits, already in place on news media, will be implemented on the Net."

PEOPLE

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then *The New York Times* Moscow correspondent, on grounds that he ignored a famine in the Ukraine in order to maintain his access to Stalin. As many as seven million Ukrainians died in the famine 70 years ago. Commenting on the accusations against Duranty, **Sig Gissler**, administrator of the Pulitzer Board, said: "Like any significant complaint, we take them seriously." Gissler said Duranty won his Pulitzer for reports he wrote the year before the famine started. The Pulitzer Board reviewed Duranty's work in 1990 but decided to let his Pulitzer stand. *The Times* has distanced itself from Duranty's controversial reporting. His Pulitzer is displayed in *The Times* headquarters with this caveat: "Other writers in *The Times* and elsewhere have discredited this coverage." Duranty covered the Soviet Union from 1922-1941.



Walter Duranty

When **Joe Lelyveld** returned to his old job as executive editor of *The New York Times* June 6, he walked into the newsroom and, quoting 19th century philosopher and writer Henry David Thoreau, told 200 assembled staffers: "It takes two to speak the truth. One to speak, and another to hear." Lelyveld, 66, left the paper in September 2001



Joseph Lelyveld

because of a mandatory retirement policy. He returned on an interim assignment following the resignation of executive editor **Howell Raines** and managing editor **Gerald Boyd** after reporter **Jayson Blair**, under a cloud of plagiarizing and concocting material, left the paper. Lelyveld was a *Times* correspondent in the Congo, New Delhi, Hong Kong, London, South Africa and Washington before becoming foreign editor, managing editor and executive editor. His book on apartheid, "Move Your Shadow," won the 1986 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction. After leaving *The Times*, he wrote for *The New York Review of Books*, *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times Magazine*.

Meanwhile, **Eddie Adams**, who won the 1969 Pulitzer for spot news photography when he was with AP, praised Raines for giving "readers more information in the way he used the great photographs by *Times* photographers and others." In a letter to the editor published in *The Times*, Adams wrote: "Mr. Raines pulled it [picture journalism] out of the graveyard, brushed off the dirt, gave it a breath of fresh air and proceeded to show the world the power of great photography that would help change individual and world opinion and make people laugh or cry."

In June, **Paul D. Colford** of New York's *Daily News* reported: "When **Howell Raines** was editorial page editor of *The New York Times*, he notably did not call for Bill Clinton's resignation over the Monica Lewinsky scandal. Now, Clinton may have returned the favor. The former president contacted *Times* publisher **Arthur Sulzberger Jr.** to argue that Raines' resignation as executive editor was too severe a response to what happened at the paper, according to sources." Raines was editor of *The Times* editorial page during Clinton's eight years in the White House.

The Asia Society has awarded its first annual Osborn Elliott Prize for Excellence in Asian Journalism to **Elizabeth Rosenthal**, 46, for her coverage of the spread of AIDS in China. Rosenthal was *The New York Times* Beijing bureau chief until becoming the newspaper's science editor this summer (*May Bulletin*). The *Times* said: "Her articles helped force the Chinese government to acknowledge the scope of the illness and the reasons for its spread." Rosenthal earned a master's degree in English literature from Cambridge University, a medical degree from Harvard University and is board certified in internal medicine. The jury that selected her for the award was chaired by OPC member **Fareed Zakaria**, editor of *Newsweek International*. The award is named for **Osborn Elliott**, editor-in-chief of *Newsweek* in the 1960s and 1970s.

For the past 90 years, *El Diario-La Prensa*, the oldest Spanish-language daily in the United States, has recorded the Hispanic immigration into New York and provided its readers with news from back home, places such as Puerto

Rico, Cuba and Colombia. In June, New York's CBS/Channel 2 broadcast a documentary on the paper's history. Publisher **Rossana Rosado** told **Albor Ruiz** of New York's *Daily News*: "As a newspaper, *El Diario-La Prensa* does not only have the duty to inform our readers, but we have the social responsibility to educate them and other New Yorkers about our history." The Spanish-language daily has paid a high price for its reporting. When he was the paper's editor-in-chief, Cuban-born **Manuel de Dios Unanue** was investigating and exposing drug trafficking in New York's Hispanic neighborhoods. In March 1992, a hooded gunman walked up to him in a Queens restaurant and shot him to death with two bullets into his head. Some 20,000 photographs made by **Justo Marti**, *El Diario-La Prensa's* Cuban-born photographer



Justo Marti

from the 1960s to the early 1980s, have been donated to the Center of Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, which holds a complete collection of the newspaper. The paper was created by the 1963 merger of *La Prensa*, founded in 1913, and *El Diario*, founded in the 1950s.

The AP signed a lease in June for new headquarters in a building at 450 West 33rd Street that also houses several other media tenants including the New York *Daily News* and Channel 13/WNET. The news service will take the top three floors of the 16-story building. AP plans to move into its new offices next year from 50 Rockefeller Plaza, where it has been based for 65 years.

The OPC archives hold three of the four books published by the Club and written by our members. Missing is "I Can Tell It Now" [New York: Dutton, 1964], edited by **David Brown** and **W. Richard Bruner**. **Sonya K. Fry**, the Club's executive director, asks if anyone has an extra copy and would be willing to donate it to the Club.

RABAT: Ali Lmrabet, editor-in-chief of two satirical magazines who was sentenced to prison in May for "insulting the king" [June *Bulletin*], ended a 47-day hunger strike in June when a cousin of Moroccan King Mohammed VI intervened. Reuters reported: "The cousin, Prince Moulay Hicham al-Alaoui, said he visited Mr. Lmrabet in a Rabat hospital and successfully argued that the cause of freedom of expression 'needs him alive, not dead.'" Lmrabet lost between 44 and 48 pounds while accepting only sugared water. His four-year prison sentence was reduced on appeal to three years.

SHANGHAI: In the 1930s, Shanghai was the news capital of China for foreign correspondents including such luminaries as **Edgar Snow**, **Archibald Steele**, **Harold Isaacs** and **Tillman Durdin**. Now plans are being made to reestablish the Shanghai Foreign Correspondents Club. Organizers **John Gittings**, **Fons Tuinstra** and **Crystyl Mo** reported by E-mail to the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand that China's foreign ministry told them the word "club" could not be used by the Shanghai organization, so they settled on the name Organizing Committee of Foreign Correspondents. With Fudan University's School of Journalism as co-host, the committee planned an April event, "Foreign Journalism in China—Celebrating Seven Decades," to launch the new organization. But Hong Kong's Foreign Correspondents' Club reported: "The organizers were sorry to announce that this event, originally scheduled for April 26-28, was postponed due to the war in Iraq." Meanwhile, **Elinor P. Griest**, who handles OPC relations with reciprocal clubs, commented: "The re-launching of a foreign correspondents' organization in Shanghai is good news!"

UNITED NATIONS: The U.N. Correspondents' Association invited Andrew L. Y. Hsia, director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, to speak this spring on how Taiwan's failure to gain observer status in the World Health Organization hampered its response to the SARS outbreak. But he was forced to meet the press on a sidewalk outside the United Nations rather than in the headquarters building.

Hsia was invited to the U.N. by **Anthony Jenkins**, president of the

Correspondents' Association and correspondent for Portugal's daily *Expresso*. "I told Jenkins that China might object to my coming to the U.N., but he assured me that U.N. officials had approved the invitation," Hsia told the *Bulletin*. "But at midnight the day just before the scheduled meeting, Jenkins sent me a fax saying U.N. approval had been withdrawn. I offered to meet the press anywhere, and I went to the U.N. gate where Jenkins was waiting. A guard politely said I could not enter the U.N. grounds, so I talked to more than 30 reporters on the sidewalk. They were all there, AP, UPI, Reuters, CNN, *Financial Times*, you name it."

Fred Eckhard, spokesman for U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, told **Colum Lynch** of *The Washington Post* that "the person coming in represented himself as an ambassador, as if from a sovereign state, I believe, triggered a protest by the Chinese mission that the secretary general felt was worth responding to." It was the first time that the U.N. had prohibited a speaker from addressing the Correspondents' Association since 1994, when a Chinese dissident was barred.

VIENTIANE: Two European journalists were arrested in Laos in June, and Laotian officials said they could be charged in connection with the killing of a village security guard by local fighters. The detained men are former AP photographer **Therry Falise**, a Belgian photojournalist who contributes to the French news weekly *L'Express*, and French cameraman **Vincent Reynaud**, who contributes to European TV stations including Arte, a French-German station. Arrested with them was Naw Karl Mua, an ethnic Hmong-American who is a Lutheran pastor from St. Paul, Minnesota. "The three men were reportedly seized after they emerged from a remote jungle where they went to meet a band of ethnic Hmong hill tribe fighters who have continued an armed resistance since the Communist victory [in Vietnam] in 1975," **Seth Mydans** of *The New York Times* reported from Bangkok. During the Vietnam War, the CIA enlisted Hmong fighters in



Andrew Hsia

America's "secret war" in Laos. In Bangkok, **Philippe Latour**, regional representative of the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders, said of the arrests: "Even if they were present at the killing during fighting between soldiers, they cannot be indicted for that. Otherwise, any journalist covering war could be indicted for that."

WASHINGTON: When **John Roderick** flew to Washington from his Honolulu home this spring and summer, old friends gathered to toast the AP newsman, who reported from continents around the world from 1937-1984 with time out for World War II military service. Roderick filed from the Middle East, Europe and Asia, and was one of the few American correspondents to report on the U.S. table tennis team's 1971 visit to China that opened the gate to U.S. relations with the People's Republic. **Jean Pearce**, longtime columnist for *The Japan Times* in Tokyo, and her husband Bill Sherman, a former U.S. diplomat in Japan, gave a party for John in their Arlington, Virginia, apartment. On hand were **Fowler (Skip) Martin**, former AP Tokyo staffer, and his wife Barbara; Nancy Hartzenbusch, widow of OPC member **Henry Hartzenbusch**, an AP executive in Asia; **Kathryn Tolbert**, former AP correspondent in Tokyo and



John Roderick, Jean Pearce, Kathryn Tolbert now the new deputy foreign editor of *The Washington Post*; Robin Berrington, a former U.S. diplomat in Tokyo; and Wells Stobler, former U.S. ambassador to Spain, and his wife Emily.

During the evening of reminiscing, Kathryn Tolbert told the guests she was creating a Japanese garden behind her Washington home and wanted moss to grow on the rocks. Nancy Hartzenbusch replied, saying moss would grow if the moss is first mixed in a blender with a cup of buttermilk to add acidity.

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From Washington, Roderick went on to New York, meeting, among others, OPC members **Sam Summerlin** and **Kelly Smith Tunney**, both former AP colleagues, and picking up an AP baseball cap that he wore to the OPC. During a three-hour lunch at Club Quarters, John, 88, and the "People" columnist, 83, one of John's former UPI rivals in Tokyo, swapped stories about two generations of foreign correspondents. They laughed in recalling how John scooped UPI by obtaining a Chinese visa to cover the 1971 Ping-Pong diplomacy. UPI never considered asking for a visa, because few had been granted to Americans since 1949 when the People's Republic was established.

In July, John flies to Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the premier performance of "Madame Mao," an opera based on the life and career of Chairman Mao Tse-tung's wife and written by Chinese composer and conductor Bright Sheng. The program sponsors invited Roderick to speak about Jiang Qing, the Shanghai actress whom Mao married. John covered the Chinese Communists when they were holed up in Yen-an after the Long March, and that is where he came to know Madame Mao in the late 1940s. She later became a radical political power in Beijing, but, after Mao's death, she was purged from the Communist Party and sent to prison as one of the Gang of Four. "She was an ordinary housewife in the Yen-an years," Roderick said.

WESTPORT, Connecticut: OPC member **Pete Hamill** received this year's Westport Public Library Award, presented to those whose work "nurtures the love of learning and enhances understanding of the world." Now a columnist for the New York *Daily News* and an author, Pete is a former editor of the *Daily News* and the *New York Post*.

IN MEMORY

Donald Arthur MacDonald, 83, former president and publisher of Dow Jones' international publications, died of lung cancer June 13 in a Red Bank, New Jersey hospital. He led *The Wall Street Journal's* overseas expansion with the start of *The Asian Wall Street Journal* in Hong Kong in 1976 and *The Wall Street Journal Europe* in Brussels in 1983. MacDonald joined Dow Jones as an

advertising sales representative in New York in 1953 and rose through advertising, management and executive positions, becoming the company's vice chairman in 1979, retiring from that post in 1986 and from the board in 1987.

◆ **Felix de Weldon**, 96, who created the sculpture of six U.S. Marines raising the American flag on Iwo Jima, died June 2 at a Woodstock, Virginia, nursing home. A U.S. Navy combat artist during World War II, de Weldon was inspired by **Joe Rosenthal's** AP photo of the 1945 Iwo Jima flag raising. Starting the day the photo was released, de Weldon made a model of the scene in three days, improvising his material by mixing soft Johnson floor wax with hard sealing wax. "When his finished work was wheeled into the office of the Marine Corps commandant, the man was so impressed that he transferred Mr. de Weldon into the Marine Corps,"



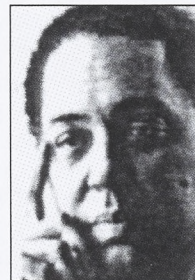
Felix de Weldon

Douglas Martin of *The New York Times* wrote. "A nine-foot model of the statue was produced for Treasury war bond rallies and was displayed for years in various locations." After de Weldon left the military, the U.S. Congress commissioned the sculpture. Weighing more than 100 tons and taking hundreds of assistants more than nine years to complete, the Iwo Jima memorial in Arlington, Virginia, is one of the largest bronze-cast statues in the world.

De Weldon was born in Vienna and came to the United States in the 1930s. He made more than 2,000 sculptures including one of Admiral Richard E. Byrd, the Antarctica explorer; the equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar near Washington's Pan American Union building; busts of Presidents Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy now in their president libraries; busts of England's King George V, King Edward VII and King George VI; and one of Elvis Presley.

◆ **Wallace Terry**, 65, one of the few black correspondents to cover the Vietnam War, died May 29 in Reston, Virginia, of Wegener's granulomatosis, an inflammation of the blood vessels. He started reporting from the war in 1967 for *Time*, and became the maga-

zine's deputy Saigon bureau chief. Terry published "Bloods: An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans" [New York: Random House, 1984]. In the book he wrote that blacks "found in military service fuller and fairer employment opportunities than blacks could find in civilian society." The book became a best seller and a 1986 PBS documentary.



Wallace Terry

Terry later used its episodes in a one-man presentation at colleges and universities across the country. He also worked for *The Washington Post*, was a CBS radio and TV commentator and wrote for *USA Today*. He served as a race relations consultant to the commanding general of the U.S. Air Force in Europe and was an ordained minister in the Disciples of Christ Church. While a student at Brown University, Terry became the first black editor of an Ivy League newspaper and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He taught for many years at Howard University and was on Brown's board of trustees.

POSTSCRIPT: **Shelley Neumeier** of Brooklyn, New York, mother of a twin boy and girl born Sept. 27, 2002, has collected bountiful foreign reporting experience in her 37 years. And now she's the new editor of the *OPC Bulletin*. Shelley studied Mandarin Chinese in Taipei; earned a bachelor degree in comparative literature at Brown University; participated in a Yale-in-China graduate program in Asian studies at Chinese University of Hong Kong; was a stringer in Hong



Shelley Neumeier, husband J.T. Farley and their twins, Lena and Evan.

NEW BOOKS

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covered the ups and downs in relations between Mussolini's Fascist government and Vatican City. From Moscow, he filed dispatches on the 1932-33 Russian famine. From Berlin, he followed the German Army as it swept through the Low Countries and into France. But Barnes was expelled from Nazi Germany in 1940 after filing a dispatch that cast doubts on Hitler's sincerity in the Soviet-German non-aggression pact. **William Shirer**, then CBS Radio's Berlin correspondent and author of 'Berlin Diary,' commented that Barnes' expulsion from Germany "was proof that he had more integrity than any of us who were allowed to stay." On Nov. 18, 1940, Barnes, 41, was flying on a British bombing mission when the plane crashed in Yugoslavia, killing all aboard and making Barnes the first U.S. war correspondent to die in WWII combat.

The life and times of this correspondent is covered in "Dispatches and Dictators: Ralph Barnes for the Herald Tribune" [Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon



Ralph Barnes

State University Press] by historian **Barbara S. Mahoney**. In 1985 when she taught and was an administrator at Barnes' alma mater, Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, Mahoney learned about the correspondent through his widow's obituary. In the book, the author wrote: "He [Barnes] reported before the era of soundbites, at a time when newspapers were, if not the sole, at least the most important, source of news. Reporters were able to write at greater length and in greater depth than is generally true today. They were stationed for extended periods in particular places, and had the opportunity to become familiar with local issues." The author commented on the challenges of daily journalism: "Working under a deadline while competing for a newspaper's limited space often weighs against thoughtful analysis; yet the best reporters strive to understand the events and personalities they cover, to provide some context to their stories.... For foreign correspondents, each of these challenges is heightened by the need to master another language, unfamiliar customs, and a new historical framework. In much of the world, they encounter governments for whom a free press is an alien concept."

In the early 1930s when they were Moscow correspondents, Barnes and **Linton Wells** of International News Service met Fay and Beth Gillis, daughters of an American mining engineer who was building an electrolyte zinc plant in the Soviet Union. "A constant round of social gatherings among their small circle was a fixture of the Moscow correspondents' life," Mahoney writes in her book. "Occasionally included were American and British advisors to various Soviet

enterprises and members of their families....The daughters of the American mining engineer, J. H. Gillis, Fay and Beth, were popular additions." Fay married Wells and they spent their honeymoon covering Italy's war in Ethiopia. She was one of the 13 foreign correspondents who founded the OPC in 1939. [For more on the late **Fay Wells**, see "People."]

ANNE Applebaum, a columnist for *The Washington Post*, estimates that more than 18 million people were sent to Russian concentration camps from 1929-1953, the years of Stalin's rule. But unlike Nazi Germany's death camps where millions were killed, just under 1 million prisoners were killed in the Soviet Union during the Stalin years. Soviet prisoners were expected to earn their keep by mining gold, felling timber, digging canals or laying rails. Applebaum describes the Soviet system in "Gulag: A History" [New York: Doubleday]. In a *New York Times* review, **Steven Merritt Miner**, an Ohio University history professor and author of "Stalin's Holy War," wrote: "The vast majority of these people [Soviet prisoners] were guilty of nothing. An Orwellian logic underlay the whole enterprise. As one police investigator explained to his



Anne Applebaum

victim: 'We never arrest anyone who is not guilty. And even if you weren't guilty, we can't release you, because people would say that we are picking up innocent people.'

NORTH AMERICA

OPC member **Rufus Goodwin's** new novel "Mr. President" [Seattle, New York, Bern: Market House Press] includes an assassination attempt carried out in the Overseas Press Club. In a report to the *Bulletin*, Goodwin described his plot: "This odd satire features a Hologram for President on the Independent ticket. At first got up as Ralph Waldo Emerson, until the spinners find out Emerson had been a minister, whose name is then changed to Waldo Embers, [the candidate] undergoes an assassination attempt at OPC Headquarters during a stump speech. The Party then runs Buffalo Bill as Embers' vice president to balance the ticket."

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 14)

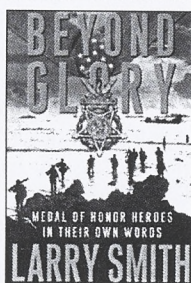
Kong for *Fortune* magazine, reporting on the business impact of the Tiananmen Square massacre; moved back to the US to become a *Fortune* reporter in New York; helped launch *Business Day* in Bangkok and covered Thailand's stock market and economy for the regional English-language newspaper; moved into television, as a producer and news editor at CNBC Asia in Singapore, where she met her husband, James T. Farley (called J.T.); and then returned to print and to New York, as an editor of *Fortune*, where until recently, she edited the Investing section. She's fluent in French and conversant in Mandarin and Spanish. Welcome to the Bulletin, Shelley.

As editor of the OPC Bulletin, Shelley is interested in creating a new feature called "From the Field," a behind-the-scenes look at the work of journalists covering international news. She's looking for stories by OPC members with interesting anecdotes to tell. Please send stories or suggestions to Shelley Neumeier, 300 Warren Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, or email her at shelleyneumeier@aol.com.

New Books

GLOBAL

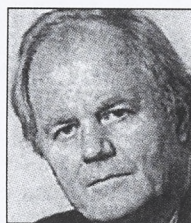
THE U.S. Congress authorized the Medal of Honor in 1861 shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War. By last year the Medal had been awarded to 3,440 men and women including 433 during World War II, 131 in the Korean War and 238 in Vietnam. In September 2002, 142 Medal of Honor recipients were living. For his book "Beyond Glory: Medal of Honor Heroes in Their Own Words" [New York: Norton], **Larry Smith**, OPC president 1992-1994, interviewed 24 men who won the Medal in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. Larry's interest in writing the book was sparked in 2000 when he interviewed nine Medal recipients for an article in *Parade* magazine, where he was managing editor. "They were fascinating, but I couldn't begin to get the color and texture of those stories into the confines of a magazine article," Smith wrote. "Yet it was clear they would make an extraordinary book, even though my background was quite different. I never served in the military, I took my children to Washington to protest against the Vietnam War, and I never in my life had any illusions about the destructiveness and the carnage—and the waste—of



Beyond Glory

combat. But, as I listened to these men tell in their own words what it was like, time and again I found myself choking up at the sacrifice in their actions and the power of their words. I wanted to know these guys." The introduction was adapted from an address given by retired General Norman Schwarzkopf, and photographs are by **Eddie Adams**, who won a 1969 Pulitzer Prize for his AP photography in the Vietnam War.

IN "The Unconquerable World: Power, Nonviolence and the Will of the People" [New York: Metropolitan Books], **Jonathan Schell**, who covered the Vietnam War for *The New Yorker*, challenges the linkage between national security and war and proposes non-violence in dealing with world problems.



Jonathan Schell

Richard Falk, a professor of global studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara, reviewed the book in *The New York Times*, writing: "The timeliness of the book is accentuated by the widely shared view, especially in the United States, that the American government had no alternative to war in dealing with the challenge from Al Qaeda." Schell argues that a combination of nuclear weapons and "people's war" has rendered war obsolete as a political instrument. Instead, he proposes disarmament, human rights, strengthening of international law and the United Nations, and giving priority to overcoming world poverty and reversing environmental decay. As examples of nonviolent strug-

gles, he describes the collapse of the Soviet Union and the transformation of the South Africa of apartheid.

ASIA

JOSEPH Chamberlain, Britain's colonial secretary, 1895-1903, boasted: "We are a great governing race, predestined by our defects as well as our virtues to spread over the habitable globe." In "The Dust of Empire: The Race for Mastery in the Asian Heartland" [New York: Century Foundation/ Public Affairs], **Karl E. Meyer** fears the sequel, writing: "America now sits where Britain did in the 1890s, only the old empire is squared [because] even at her apogee, Britannia had nothing like America's economic and military preponderance." Meyer, who edits *World Policy Journal*, is a former *Washington Post* foreign correspondent and former *New York Times* editorial writer. Reviewing the book in *The New York Times*, **Stephen Kotkin**, author of "Armageddon Averted: The Soviet Collapse, 1970-2000," wrote that Meyer "reads voraciously, travels to rough places and worries that Americans lack not just knowledge of the world but curiosity as well....Mr. Meyer evokes [historic] characters in a sweeping yet pithy rumination on empire (not on how Americans are incapable of empire but on how they ought to know better)."

EUROPE

BETWEEN the two World Wars, **Ralph Barnes** of *The New York Herald Tribune*, reported from Paris, Rome, Moscow and Berlin. In Rome, he
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ANNUAL MEETING
Monday,
August 18, 2003
5:30pm

Club Quarters
40 West 45 Street
All Members Welcome
Election Results

The Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA